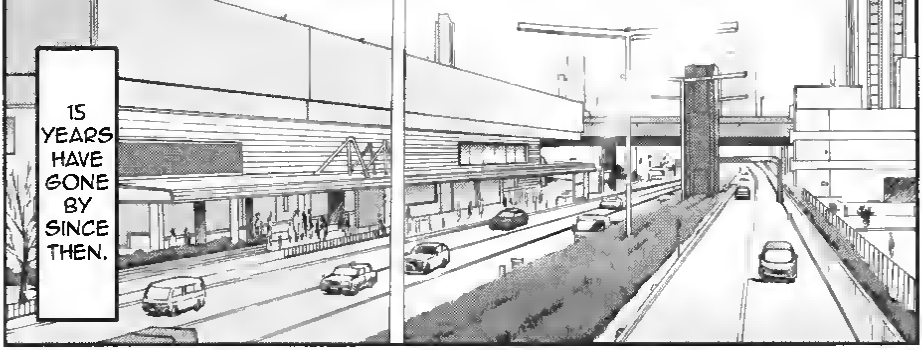
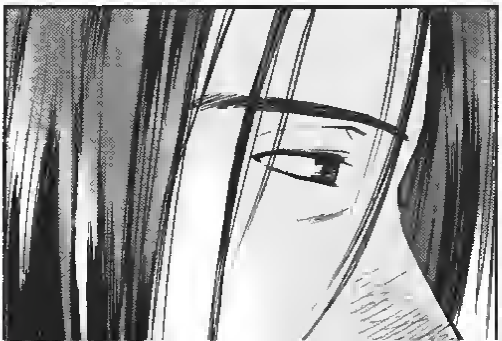
君と僕のアシアト
～タイムトラベル研究部～
第1話
IT WAS HER EYES THAT GOT ME.
I HAD A THING FOR HER EYES, ALWAYS LOOKING SO FAR-OFF.
IT WAS WHEN I WAS 16
THAT I FOUND MYSELF SPILLING MY GUTS AND CONFESSING MY FEELINGS TO THIS GIRL, ONE SUMI AIZAWA.

SORRY TO BREAK IT TO YOU.
BUT I'M ONLY INTO OLDER MEN. YOUNGER GUYS DON'T INTEREST ME AT ALL.
OLDER MEN!?
SIGH.
WELL, NOT THAT A TIME MACHINE CAN MAKE YOU AGE ANY FASTER ANYWAY.
しゅう
WE MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE SAME AGE,
BUT HER RESPONSE WAS A REALLY VEXING ONE. SHE MIGHT AS WELL HAVE TOLD ME TO MAKE A TIME MACHINE.

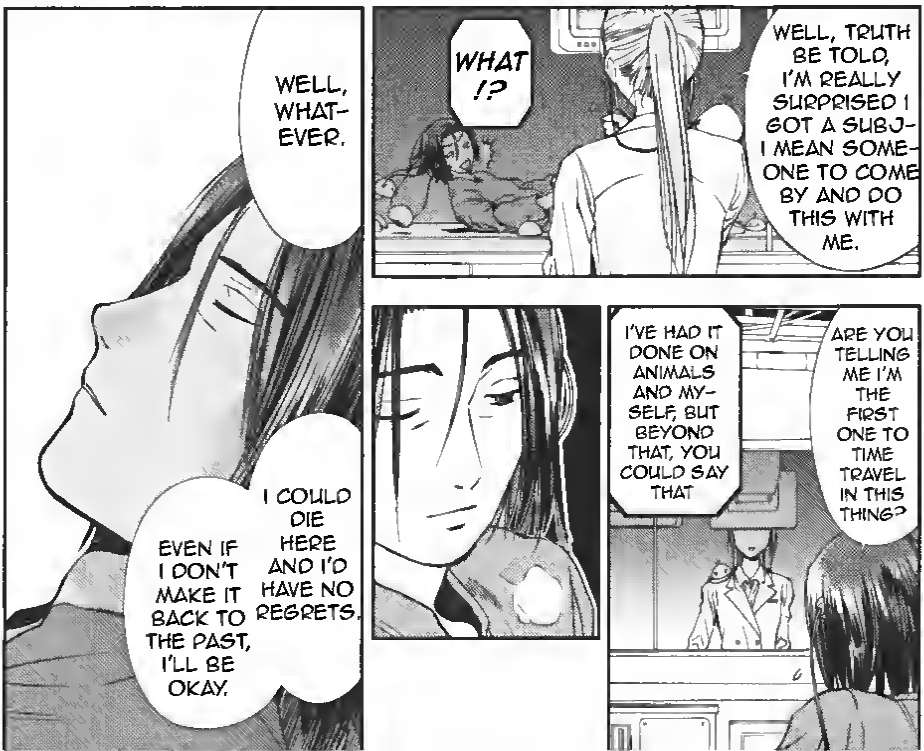
君と僕のアシアト
～タイムトラベル春日研究所～
第1話
IN OUR WAKE
TIME TRAVEL IN KASUGA
CHAPTER 0A

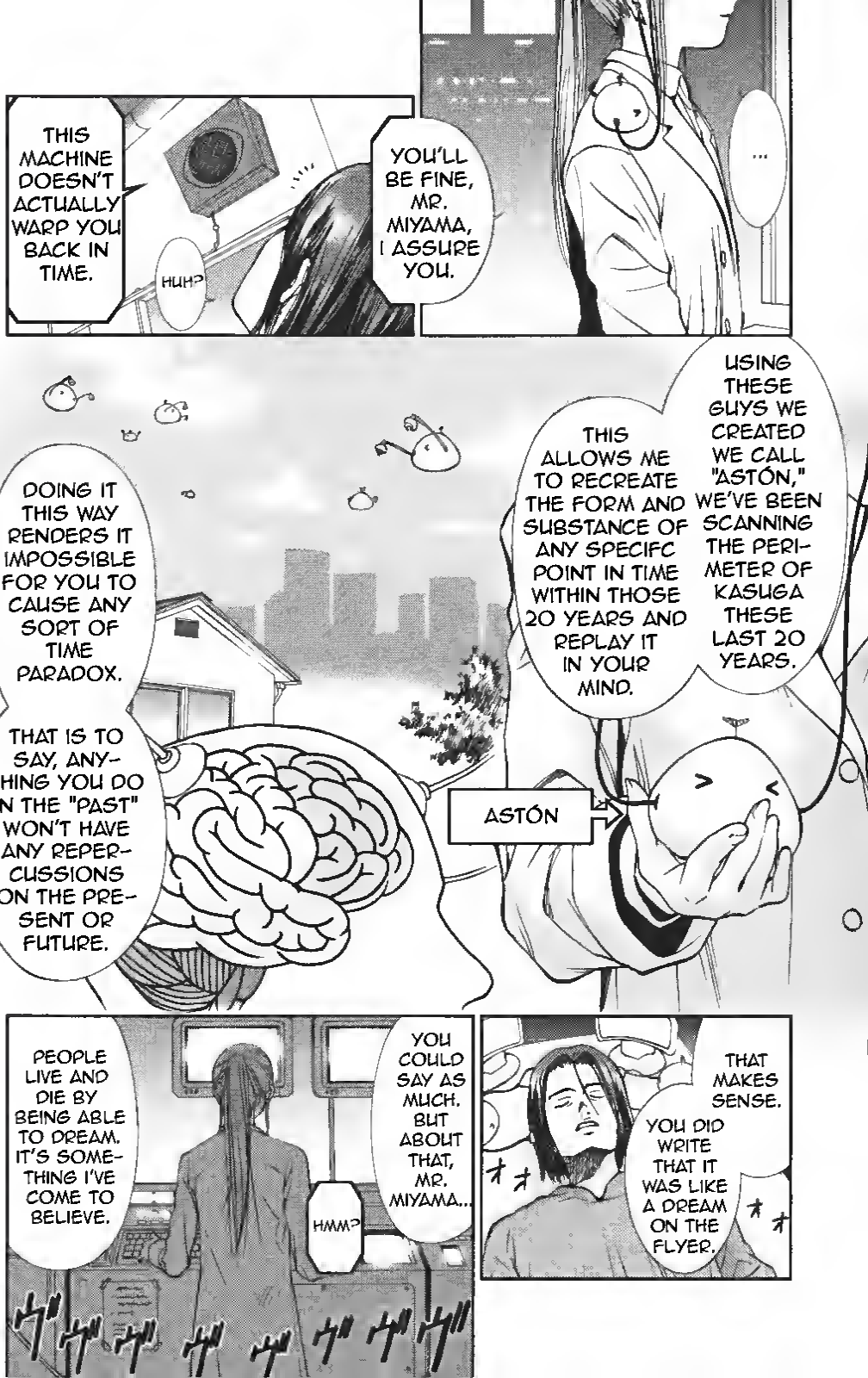


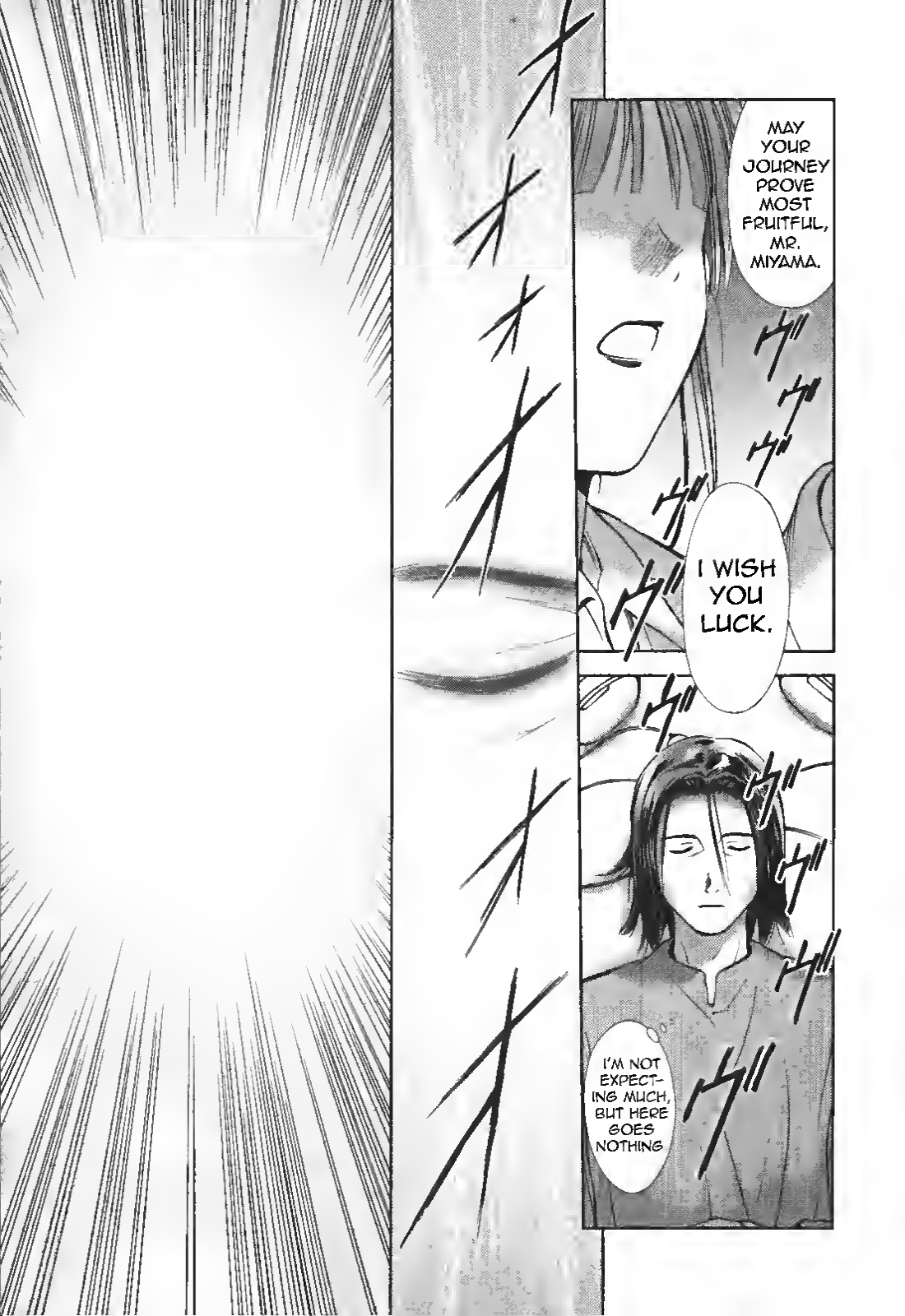
TIME TRAVEL SERVICE. TAKE A TRIP TO THE PAST, EXACTLY AS YOU REMEMBER IT WITHOUT ANY RISK OF TIME PARADOXES! 500,000 YEN FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY! (SCOPE LIMITED TO KASUGA CITY LIMITS WITHIN THE PAST 20 YEARS.)



SUMI AIZAWA...
(有)タイムトラベル春日研究
A DAY HASN'T GONE BY THESE PAST 15 YEARS WHERE I HAVEN'T THOUGHT OF HER.
YOUR NAME IS... HIROKI MIYAMA, CORRECT?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT
BUT, UH, WHAT'S WITH ALL THE MINI-ROBOTS?


WHAT!?
WELL, TRUTH BE TOLD, I'M REALLY SURPRISED I GOT A SUBJ- I MEAN SOMEONE TO COME BY AND DO THIS WITH ME.
WELL, WHATEVER.
I COULD DIE HERE AND I'D HAVE NO REGRETS.
EVEN IF I DON'T MAKE IT BACK TO THE PAST, I'LL BE OKAY.
I'VE HAD IT DONE ON ANIMALS AND MYSELF, BUT BEYOND THAT, YOU COULD SAY THAT
ARE YOU TELLING ME I'M THE FIRST ONE TO TIME TRAVEL IN THIS THING?


...
YOU'LL BE FINE, MR. MIYAMA, I ASSURE YOU.
HUH?
THIS MACHINE DOESN'T ACTUALLY WARP YOU BACK IN TIME.
USING THESE GUYS WE CREATED WE CALL "ASTÓN," WE'VE BEEN SCANNING THE PERIMETER OF KASUGA THESE LAST 20 YEARS.
THIS ALLOWS ME TO RECREATE THE FORM AND SUBSTANCE OF ANY SPECIFC POINT IN TIME WITHIN THOSE 20 YEARS AND REPLAY IT IN YOUR MIND.
ASTÓN
DOING IT THIS WAY RENDERS IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO CAUSE ANY SORT OF TIME PARADOX.
THAT IS TO SAY, ANY-THING YOU DO IN THE "PAST" WON'T HAVE ANY REPER-CUSSIONS ON THE PRE-SENT OR FUTURE.
THAT MAKES SENSE.
YOU DID WRITE THAT IT WAS LIKE A DREAM ON THE FLYER.
YOU COULD SAY AS MUCH. BUT ABOUT THAT, MR. MIYAMA...
HMM?
PEOPLE LIVE AND DIE BY BEING ABLE TO DREAM. IT'S SOME-THING I'VE COME TO BELIEVE.

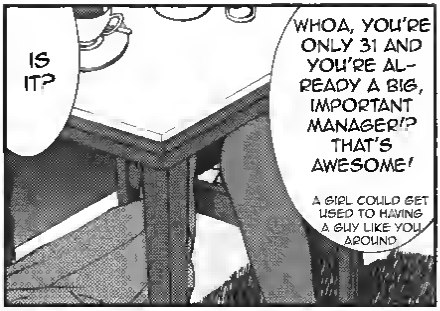

MAY YOUR JOURNEY PROVE MOST FRUITFUL, MR. MIYAMA.
I WISH YOU LUCK.
I'M NOT EXPECT-ING MUCH, BUT HERE GOES NOTHING

IS THIS THE STATION BY MY OLD HIGH SCHOOL?
DID I MAKE IT?
...

15 YEARS...
I'M BACK 15 YEARS IN THE PAST!
IT REALLY IS THE PAST NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.
FEBRUARY 2007.
2007 FEB 21
WED 16:17
!!!
IT'S HER!
THERE SHE IS, RIGHT IN FRONT OF MY EYES.
H, HEY YOU!

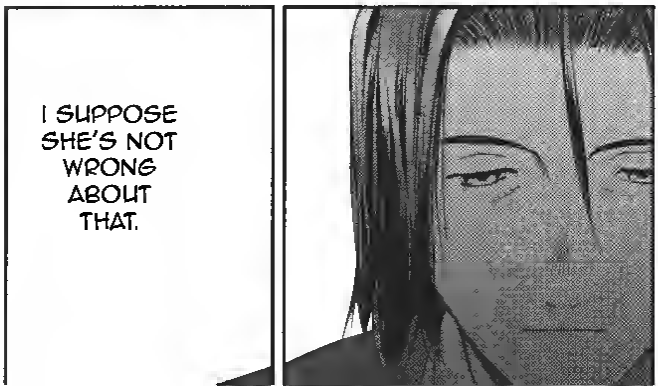
THE ONE I FELL IN LOVE WITH ALL THOSE YEARS AGO,
?
SUMI AIZAWA, STILL A YOUNG 16 YEARS OLD.
I KNEW SHE SAID SHE PREFERRED OLDER GUYS.
BUT I STILL WASN'T EXPECTING US TO GET ALONG SO SWIMMINGLY AND SO QUICKLY.

YEAH RIGHT! YOU'RE TOO MUCH OF A SMOOTH TALKER!
STILL, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE CHATTED WITH A GIRL AS YOUNG AS YOU.


IS IT?
WHOA, YOU'RE ONLY 31 AND YOU'RE ALREADY A BIG, IMPORTANT MANAGER!? THAT'S AWESOME!
A GIRL COULD GET USED TO HAVING A GUY LIKE YOU AROUND

WHEN I WAS 23, I FINALLY MADE SOME PROGRESS AND GOT HER TO GO OUT WITH ME.
YOU'RE TOO DAMN STUBBORN. YOU WIN THIS TIME.

AND SO, FOR THE LAST EIGHT YEARS, I'VE PROPOSED TO HER COUNTLESS TIMES, HOPING TO WIN HER OVER COMPLETELY.


I SUPPOSE SHE'S NOT WRONG ABOUT THAT.

WILL YOU MARRY ME!?
SUMI!
HIROKI MIYAMA, AGE 24
AGE 30
SUMI, WILL YOU...
YOU SURE DON'T KNOW WHEN TO QUIT, HUH?
...
AGE 28
NAH.
SUMI, I WANT TO-
AGE 26
NOPE.
SUMI, MARRY ME!
NO.
WAIT, HUH!?
YES, THIS IS SHE. UH-HUH, YEAH...
OH, A CALL!
ピッ
CAN'T SAY I FAULT YOU FOR IT, THOUGH.
♪

ガタッ
WHAT'S THAT ABOUT MY DAD!?
SUMI'S FATHER WAS ALWAYS SICK.
SUMI, I'M SO SORRY WORK GOT IN THE WAY OF MY GOING TO HIS WAKE AND FUNERAL....
SHE LOOKED AFTER HIM AND OFTEN CAME BY TO HIS HOUSE IN THOSE DAYS.
IS IT OKAY IF I AT LEAST GO IN AND BURN A LITTLE INCENSE FOR HIM?
NO, IT'S FINE.
I'D RATHER YOU NOT GO IN.
WHAT? BUT WHY?

BUT WAS IT REALLY HER FATHER'S DEATH THAT BROUGHT OUT THOSE TEARS?
I NEVER GOT THE CHANCE TO FIGURE IT OUT.
ONE WEEK AFTER THE FUNERAL, SHE WAS GONE, TOO.
SHE GOT INTO A CAR ACCIDENT THAT TOOK HER AWAY, JUST LIKE THAT.
わああああああ
SHE HAD NEVER SHOWN THAT SIDE OF HERSELF UNTIL THEN.
HEY, SUMI.
DO YOU AND YOUR FATHER HAVE... DIFFERENT LAST NAMES?
?
RYUUJI TANI...
THAT WAS A FIRST FOR ME.
SNNF
UHUH
AND THEN...
AFTER THAT...
WHEN I WAS LITTLE... MY PARENTS GOT DIVORCED AND MOM TOOK ME WITH HER.
THING IS, THOUGH, ALL WE EVER DID WAS FIGHT, SO I CAME BACK HERE EVENTUALLY.

TOMORROW IS THE FIRST ANNIVER-SARY.
THERE WASN'T ANYTHING MORE IN THE WORLD I WANTED THAN SIMPLY THAT.
I LONGED TO SEE SUMI ONE MORE TIME AS A YOUNG WOMAN.
IT'S PROBABLY NO COINCI-DENCE THAT THE TIMING TO SEE HER AGAIN HAS PANNED OUT LIKE THIS, THEN.
HMM...
AND WHEN I LOOK AT THOSE EYES AGAIN NOW,
I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER IF HER DISTANT EXPRESSION HAD SOME-THING TO DO WITH THOSE TEARS SHE SHED BACK THEN.

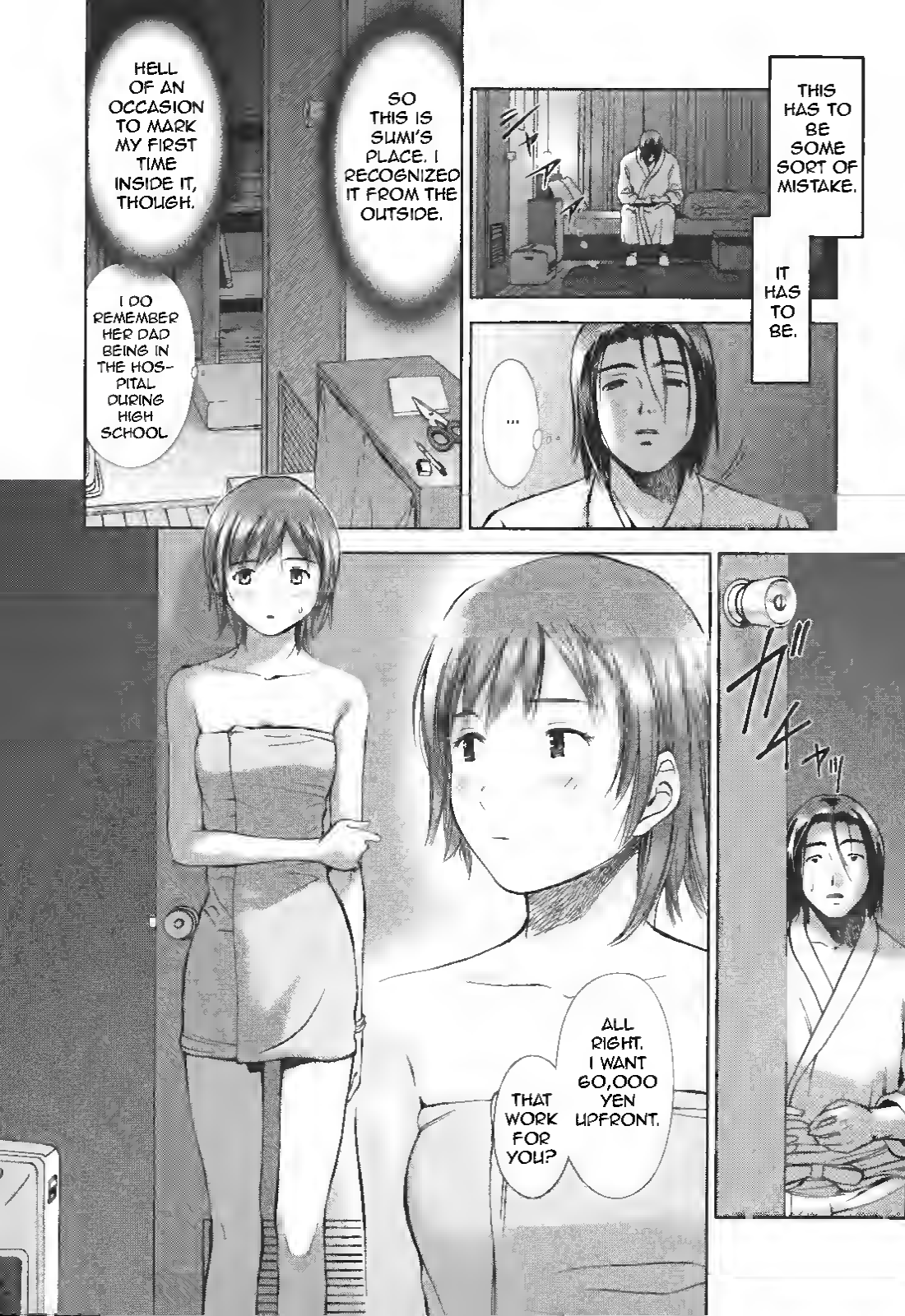
I GUESS WE SHOULD GET DOWN TO BUSI-NESS.
WELL THEN.
HOW MUCH ARE YOU WILLING TO PAY?
SO,
W, WHAT?
...

COME ON, WE DON'T NEED TO KEEP PLAY-ING GAMES. I KNOW WHAT'S UP.
ALL I NEED IS MONEY AND I'M GOOD TO GO.
OF COURSE, I NEED YOU TO PAY UP AHEAD OF TIME, BUT I'M SURE YOU KNEW THAT ALREADY.
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE BEEN AROUND THE BLOCK BEFORE.

HEY!
WAIT UP!
WHAT THE HELL, MAN!?
WASN'T THAT WHAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR!?
WHY ELSE WOULD YOU BE TALKING TO SOMEONE LIKE ME?
...
GOD DAMMIT

WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE THIS WAY!?
HUH?
WHERE DO YOU GET OFF SAYING THAT!?

IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS WHAT I'VE GOT GOING ON!
WHY DOES IT MATTER WHAT I DO WITH MY LIFE!?
THIS WASN'T HOW I PICTURED IT.
THEN IT'LL BE MY BUSINESS.
ALL RIGHT, I'LL PAY UP.
MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT.
...
I COULDN'T HAVE EVER IMAGINED SUMI TO BE THE TYPE TO GO FOR THESE SORTS OF THINGS.


THIS HAS TO BE SOME SORT OF MISTAKE.
IT HAS TO BE.
...
SO THIS IS SUMI'S PLACE. I RECOGNIZED IT FROM THE OUTSIDE.
HELL OF AN OCCASION TO MARK MY FIRST TIME INSIDE IT, THOUGH.
I DO REMEMBER HER DAD BEING IN THE HOSPITAL DURING HIGH SCHOOL
ALL RIGHT. I WANT 60,000 YEN UPFRONT.
THAT WORK FOR YOU?

I'VE GOTTA SAY, YOU'RE PRETTY BALLSY.
EH?
NOT EVERY GIRL WHO DOES PAID DATING WOULD TAKE THE GUY BACK TO HER OWN PLACE.
THANKS!
...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WHEN DID I EVER SAY THIS WAS MY HOUSE?
WAIT, WHAT?
...

WHAT WERE YOU THINKING!? NO GIRL WOULD EVER BE INSANE ENOUGH TO DO THAT!
THIS PLACE BELONGS TO A YAKUZA NAMED RYUUJI TANI. HE'S MY BOYFRIEND!
SO I'D REALLY APPRECIATE IT IF YOU KEPT ALL THIS TO YOURSELF, OKAY? I'D BE IN REAL TROUBLE IF WORD GOT OUT TO HIM AND HIS MEN WHAT I'M UP TO HERE.

YOU'RE SO SERIOUS, MIYAMA!
CAN'T SAY I FAULT YOU FOR IT, THOUGH.
RYUUJI TANI... HEY, SUMI. DO YOU AND YOUR FATHER HAVE DIF-FERENT LAST NAMES?
SO THIS ISN'T HER HOUSE AFTER ALL?
HEY, YOU WANNA GO SOME-WHERE THIS WEEK-END?
I'M SO SORRY! I NEED TO GO SEE DAD!
I'M SORRY. I HAVE TO BE THERE AGAIN.
YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING ME.

WE'D BEEN GOING OUT FOR SO LONG THAT I THOUGHT WE WERE BEING HONEST WITH EACH OTHER.
DID I NOT REALLY KNOW A THING ABOUT HER AT ALL?
SO THAT WHOLE TIME...
WHILE WE WERE DATING...
YOU WERE STILL WITH THAT YAKUZA GUY.
AND THEN YOU WHORED YOURSELF OUT ON THE SIDE. IS THAT HOW IT WENT?
HUH?

I JUST DON'T.
I DON'T KNOW ANY-MORE.
WHAT THE HELL SHOULD I EVEN BELIEVE ANYMORE!?

YOUR TIME IS UP, MR. MIYAMA.
HOW WAS IT, THOUGH?
WHOA, DON'T GET UP SO FAST!
YOU'LL LIKELY FEEL DIZZY FOR A BIT.
DID YOU FIND WHAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR IN THE PAST?

ゴォォ　ォ

TRUTH BE TOLD, I FEEL AS THOUGH I LOST MORE THINGS THAN I FOUND.

TODAY'S THE ANNI-VERSAY.

SUMI.

WHERE DO I EVEN BEGIN?

HERE I AM IN FRONT OF YOUR GRAVE AND NOW I CAN'T MAKE HEADS OR TAILS ABOUT YOU ANY-MORE.

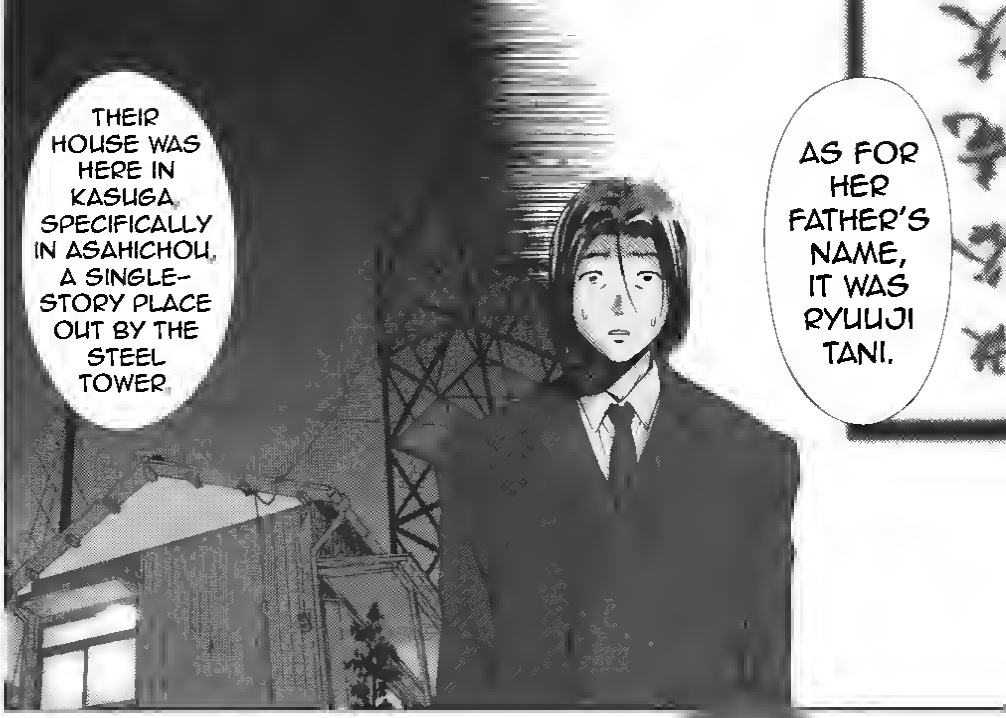
AIZAWA FAMILY GRAVE

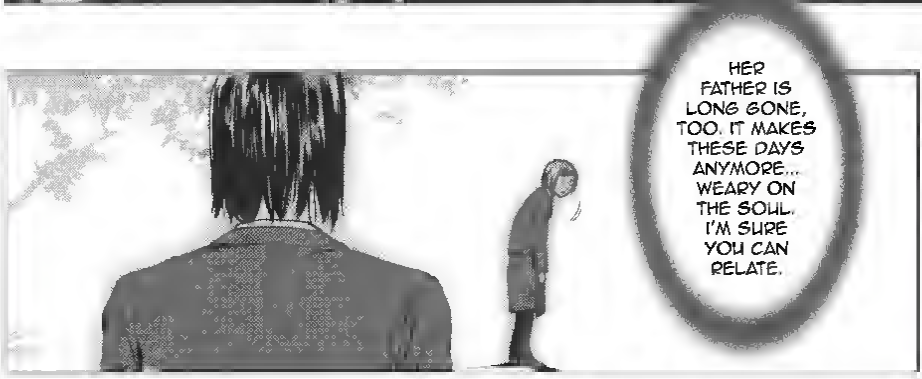
OH?

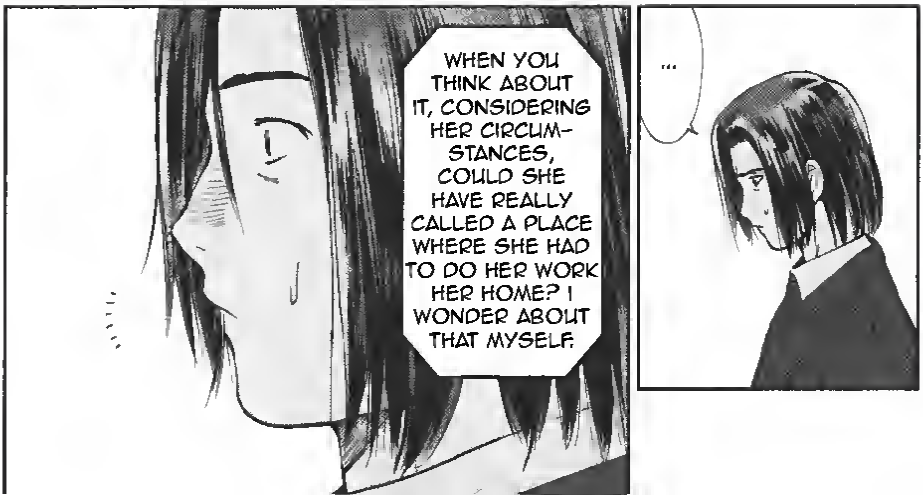
AFTER IT'S ALL SAID AND DONE, WHICH WAS THE REAL YOU IN THE END?

HELLO. THANK YOU FOR COMING BY TODAY.
OH, IT'S... NOT A PROB-LEM.
OH, MY DEEPEST APOLO-GIES!
THIS IS DEFI-NITELY THE GUY SHE USED TO TALK ABOUT.
I'M ENDOU, SUMI'S STEP-MOTHER.
ARE YOU A FRIEND OF SUMI'S?
UH... ACTUALLY, MA'AM, WE HAD BEEN DATING UNTIL SHE DIED.
AND YOU ARE?
STEP-MOTHER!?
SUMI WAS ALWAYS SUCH A GOOD CHILD, DOING EVERYTHING SHE COULD FOR HER FATHER.
AFTER SHE HAD A FALLING OUT WITH HER MOTHER, SHE ALWAYS LOOKED AFTER HIM, WORKING ON HER OWN TO MAKE ENDS MEET FOR HIS LIVING AND MEDICAL COSTS, ALL WHILE STILL ATTENDING HIGH SCHOOL.

OH!
ALL ON HER OWN!?
SHE WAS PAYING FOR ALL OF THAT!?
FROM THE SOUND OF IT, A LOT OF HER WORK REALLY TOOK A TOLL ON HER.
COULD YOU PLEASE TELL ME ABOUT HER FATHER'S NAME AND... WHERE SHE USED TO LIVE?
BUT I HAVE SOME-THING I NEED TO ASK YOU!
I KNOW THIS IS PRETTY SUDDEN AND RUDE OF ME!
I THINK I MIGHT HAVE GOTTEN MARRIED TO MIYAMA AND HAD A CHILD WITH HIM BY NOW.
IF DAD HAD BEEN BETTER AND I WAS ABLE TO REDO MY HIGH SCHOOL YEARS ALL OVER AGAIN,
SOME-THING ALONG THOSE LINES
...
MR. MIYAMA, I HEARD A LOT ABOUT YOU FROM SUMI.
THERE WAS SOME-THING ABOUT YOU THAT SHE USED TO SAY A LOT.


AS FOR HER FATHER'S NAME, IT WAS RYUUJI TANI.
THEIR HOUSE WAS HERE IN KASUGA, SPECIFICALLY IN ASAHICHOU, A SINGLE-STORY PLACE OUT BY THE STEEL TOWER.


HER FATHER IS LONG GONE, TOO. IT MAKES THESE DAYS ANYMORE... WEARY ON THE SOUL. I'M SURE YOU CAN RELATE.


WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT, CONSIDERING HER CIRCUM-STANCES, COULD SHE HAVE REALLY CALLED A PLACE WHERE SHE HAD TO DO HER WORK HER HOME? I WONDER ABOUT THAT MYSELF.
...

...
I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO MUCH FOR HER
I DON'T HAVE MUCH IN MY SAVINGS AND I DOUBT SHE COULD HAVE RELIED ON ME FOR ANYTHING ELSE
ギュッ
BUT STILL...
OH!
IT'S YOU FROM THE LAB.
...
WHY DIDN'T SHE TELL ME ANYTHING ABOUT THE MONEY OR HER DAD!?
IF SHE HAD JUST SAID SOME-THING, ANYTHING! GOD DAMMIT!

IT'S LIKE A POORLY TIED SHOE-LACE.
MR. MIYAMA.
THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS IN THIS WORLD THAT DON'T LINE UP QUITE LIKE HOW WE THINK THEY SHOULD.
WHEN ONE LITTLE THING BECOMES AMISS, IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT EVERY-THING ELSE ATTACHED TO IT SHIFTS IN RESPONSE TO IT.
THAT'S WHY I ORIGINALLY GOT INTO THIS LINE OF WORK IN THE FIRST PLACE.
PEOPLE NEED TO BE AWARE OF THIS REALITY THAT THEY FACE.

THIS FORM WAS RECOV-ERED FROM HER.
婚姻届
MARRIAGE REGISTRATION
SHE HAD IT ON HER PERSON RIGHT BEFORE THE ACCIDENT.
HMM...
SINCE YOU WERE MY FIRST CUSTOMER, I'LL GIVE THIS TO YOU FREE OF CHARGE.
ウィン
PLEASE, GO AHEAD AND TAKE IT.

IN THE END, I THINK MISS SUMI WAS STILL A GOOD PERSON AFTER ALL.
おしまい

THE END OF THE ROAD

ALTHOUGH I DIDN'T GET AROUND TO READING THE PILOT CHAPTERS UNTIL ABOUT HALFWAY THROUGH MY INITIAL RUN OF THE SERIES IN JAPANESE, IN OUR WAKE IS A TRANSLATION I'VE BEEN WANTING TO DO VIRTUALLY SINCE THE DAY I DISCOVERED IT NEARLY TWO YEARS AGO. ONE OF THOSE RARE WORKS THAT DEFTLY COMBINES POIGNANT MOMENTS WITH AN ENDURING SENSE OF HOPE AND A UNIQUE TAKE ON TIME TRAVEL, IN OUR WAKE RESONATED WITH ME AS A READER LIKE FEW OTHER SEINEN SERIES EVER HAVE AND AFTER ABOUT TWO CHAPTERS, I KNEW IT DESERVED A LIFE OUTSIDE ITS NATIVE JAPAN. I'M A FIRM BELIEVER THAT MANGA CAN AND SHOULD BE ENJOYED BY ALL AGE GROUPS AS IT IS OVER THERE AND THAT, PROFITIBILITY BE DAMNED, ADULT ENGLISH READERS DESERVE A BETTER SELECTION THAN SIMPLY MORE WEEKLY SHOUNEN AND SHOUJO SERIES LIKE THE ONES THEY GREW UP WITH. THEY LIVE WITH MORE COMPLICATED PROBLEMS THAN JUST SAVING THE WORLD OR MAKING THEIR WAY THROUGH SCHOOL AND THEY AS AN AUDIENCE SHOULD BE ABLE TO BETTER ACCESS WORK THAT MORE DIRECTLY SPEAKS TO THEM AND THEIR COMPLICATED LIVES. IT'S A PHILOSOPHY THAT DRIVES ALMOST ALL OF MY TRANSLATION WORK THESE DAYS, BUT IT'S ESPECIALLY TRUE WITH SOMETHING LIKE IN OUR WAKE. AS THIS FIRST PILOT CHAPTER DEMONSTRATES, YOSHIZUKI IS HARDLY AFRAID TO DELVE INTO DARK TOPICS LIKE "ENJO KOUSAI" ("PAID/COMPENSATED DATING") THAT SUBSTANTIALLY AFFECT PEOPLE IN TODAY'S WORLD AND HIS CONFIDENCE IN DEALING WITH SUCH HARSH SUBJECT MATTER ONLY BECOMES STRONGER AS THE SERIES GOES ON. I CAN ONLY HOPE MY READERS AGREE WITH ME IN FEELING HIS BRAND OF NARRATIVE IS WORTH SPREADING.

STILL, I HELD OFF ON DOING THE SERIES UNTIL NOW BECAUSE I WANTED TO BE READY TO HANDLE IT AS A TRANSLATOR. IT'S ONE THING TO BE ABLE TO READ IT PERFECTLY FINE IN THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE AND COMPREHEND THE PLOT COVER-TO-COVER, BUT IT'S ANOTHER THING ENTIRELY TO TRY AND PRODUCE AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION THAT COMPETES WITH THE ORIGINAL VERSION IN TERMS OF WRITING QUALITY. SO I GAVE IT A FEW YEARS, DURING WHICH I MOVED TO JAPAN AND BACK AND DID A WHOLE LOT OF SOUL SEARCHING AND GENERAL LIFE LIVING, AND I FEEL LIKE I'M ABLE TO INDIRECTLY TAKE A LOT OF THOSE EXPERIENCES I'VE HAD AND USE THEM TO CHURN OUT WHAT I HOPE IS REALLY NATURAL-SOUNDING ENGLISH TO GIVE THIS SERIES THE QUALITY TRANSLATION THAT IT REALLY, REALLY DESERVES. IF YOU AS AN ENGLISH READER HAVE GOT TEARS WELLING UP AS OFTEN I DID WHEN I READ THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE, THEN I'VE DONE MY JOB.

THE CREDITS FOR CHAPTER 0A ARE THE SAME AS ALWAYS. SAVE FOR THE ANON WHO HANDLED THE RAW SCAN, I, PEPSIMAN, TOOK CARE OF EVERYTHING ELSE, FROM TRANSLATING TO IMAGE EDITING. THAT BEING SAID, SINCE PARTS OF THE EDITING PROCESS WERE A REAL PAIN, I'D LIKE TO EXPAND THE TEAM BEYOND MYSELF. IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN HELPING, CONTACT ME AT ONE OF THESE URLS!

UNTIL NEXT TIME, THIS HAS BEEN ANOTHER TANPENSHUU RELEASE! -PEPSIMAN
HTTP://TANPENSHUU.TUMBLR.COM HTTP://TANPENSHUU.WORDPRESS.COM